# NEW PUBLICATIONS.

## SOME ENGLISH CRITICISMS.

CRITICAL MISCELLANIES. By JOHN MORLEY. Vol. III. Globe 8vo. pp. xii., 384. Macmillan & Co.

The subjects of the essays comprising the third and last volume of the handsome collection of Mr. Morley's "Critical Miscellanies" are somewhat more diversified than those of the previous volumes, and perhaps of a somewhat more general interest. Several of them are reviews of books—the "Autobiographies" of J. S. Mill and Harriet Martineau, the "Memoirs" of Mark Pattison, the "Life" of George Eliot, the first part of M. Taine's "Origines de la France Contemporaine"; there is an address on "Popular Culture" delivered before the Midland Institute; a vigorous examination of the various schemes of imperial federation—to all of which Mr. Morley is strenuously opposed—is made, apropos of Mr. Seeley's work on "The Expansion of England"; and an expository and biographical article on Auguste Comte is reprinted from "The Encyclopædia Britannica." Here we have a sample of the variety and importance of the work which Mr. Morley has been in the habit of doing in journalism. After we have admired the forcible argument, the clear and attractive statement, and the lively style which distinguish nearly all these papers, let us pause a moment to consider how weighty is their matter, and we shall be at no loss to understand why Mr. Morley ranks as one of the strongest men in the profession of periodical literature. The critical reviews, for example, are not of that easy and often entertaining kind which can be made by any clever writer with no other knowledge than he can pick from the book under examination. They are the outgivings of a full mind, and as a rule they are intended to illustrate some independent proposition, or to define the relations of the subject to the most important phases of modern thought.

Mr. Morley's anti-theological radicalism is plainly enough indicated in the choice of some of his topics, and he expresses it in this volume with the same excess of warmth to which we have taken exception in noticing the previous ones. But if his rationalistic rancor is not diminished in intensity, there are at least fewer occasions for its display. In the paper on Harriet Martineau he dwells upon the "highly important maxim, that it is a great mistake to expend more time and labor on a piece of composition than is enough to make it serve the purpose in hand . . . Those highly fastidious and indolent people, who sometimes live at Oxford and Cambridge, with whom, indeed, for the most part, their high fastidiousness is only a fine name for impotence and lack of will, forget that the less immortal kinds of literature are the only kinds within their own reach. Literature is no doubt a fine art—the finest of the arts—but it is also a practical art: and it is deplorable to think how much stout instructive work might and ought to be done by people who, in dreaming of ideals in prose or verse beyond their attainment, end, like the poor Casaubon of fiction, in a little pamphlet on a particle, or else in mediocre poetry, or else in nothing." These reflections, conveying a counsel of which American men of letters possibly stand in no particular need, are curiously characteristic of the militant, strong-headed journalist who has proved himself also a very capable, sagacious, and practical politician of the best type. They would hardly have occurred to a genuine scholar; yet if any man imagines that Mr. Morley's occasional work is deficient in scholarship, let him read these essays, and he will soon rid himself of such a false impression. After all, the time and labor which Mr. Morley thinks enough to make a piece of composition "serve the purpose in hand," are ample to tax a very industrious essayist.

SANTA BARBARA, and Around There. By EDWARD ROBERTS. With Illustrations by H. C. Ford. 16mo. pp. 191. Roberts Brothers.

The author of this attractive little book has dealt sympathetically but sensibly with a pleasant subject. He describes the famous California health-resort, and the beautiful country surrounding it, with sufficient detail, and gives a great deal of practical information about prices, business opportunities, ways of living, etc., which will be welcome to a large circle of inquirers. He has a keen appreciation of the charms of the place, but he is not unduly enthusiastic; we can testify from personal knowledge that his statements are moderate, and we are not sure but that his picture might even have been more highly colored without sacrifice of truth. The region embracing Santa Barbara, its suburban villages, and the Ojai Valley, is in fact one of the finest health resorts in the world. It has marked advantages over Nice, Mentone, and the other famous places on the Mediterranean Riviera, while it lacks none of their excellences of climate. It offers few of the amusements of those fashionable towns, but it affords all the comforts that a reasonable visitor can want; and in its free open-air life it has a source of health and pleasure which none of its rivals can surpass. The quiet little town, with its picturesque mixture of modern villas, fine hotels, crumbling adobe houses from which looks out the swarthy face of the indolent Spaniard, and ancient Mission where a few gray-robed Franciscans still tell their beads amidst the ruins of a once famous establishment, has fascinated hundreds of tourists, and seems to us destined for a bright future.

GERMAN PSYCHOLOGY OF TO-DAY. The Empirical School. By TH. RIBOT, Director of the *Revue Philosophique*. Translated from the second French edition by JAMES MARK BALDWIN. With a Preface by JAMES MCCOSH, D. D. 12mo., pp. xxi., 307. Charles Scribner's Sons.

The new psychology, to the exposition of which the present treatise is devoted, considers operations of the mind, states of the intellect and emotions, in connection with the physical phenomena of the brain and nerves. It even brings to the examination of psychical problems the same experimental methods of research and exact measurement which are used in the physical sciences. While there is no doubt that the system is perfectly feasible within certain limits, no one pretends that its application has yet been carried very far, and few perhaps anticipate for it a universal triumph. Professor McCosh does not even admit M. Ribot's claim that physiological psychology, as it is called is new. He traces it as far back as Aristotle. But it has acquired fresh interest and importance of late years, and M. Ribot's work gives an excellent summary of what has been accomplished in it, especially by the contemporary German investigators.

STUDIES IN GREEK THOUGHT. Essays Selected from the Papers of the late LEWIS R. PACKARD, Hillhouse Professor of Greek in Yale College. 12mo. pp. v., 182. Ginn & Co.

Although only two of the papers included in this collection were prepared for the press by their author, all of them are sufficiently worked out to justify publication, the abruptness which is now and then noticed in the discussions being an affair of literary style rather than of unfinished reasoning. The essays which received Professor Packard's last touches are both on Plato—an acute examination of the famous argument for the immortality of the soul in the "Phædo," and a review of the theory of education in "The Republic." An address on the "Morality and Religion of the Greeks" is an excellent example of the author's clear style and fine and moderate thought, and the calm discretion with which he uses the historical method of inquiry. Of a more purely literary character are an admirable lecture on the "Ethics Rex of Socrates," and two unfinished and highly interesting papers on the "Illiads at Kolonos" and "Antigone," written at Athens during the last months of Professor Packard's life.


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